Missoula Field Office
NEPA Log
FY 2007

This log tracks initiation and approval of environmental documents that are being or have been completed as part of the BLM's responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As a member of the public, you are invited to provide comments/concerns on any of the proposed actions associated with this NEPA log. These comments will be considered during the NEPA analysis and decisionmaking process for the applicable project. Under the column "Comment Period," Y means there is a formal comment period during a definite period. N means there is no formal comment period and comments should be submitted prior to the estimated decision date. Please feel free to provide comments to or request information from the contact identified on the log.

Click here to link to Pending Applications for Permit to Drill

NEPA # -07-	Project Name	Project Type (Resource Program)	Project Location (include county)	Contact/Phone	Initiation Date	Comment Period* (Y/N)	Decision Date (*Estimated date should be italicized*)	Document Type** (CX, DNA, EA)	Formal Cooperators (if any) (Y/N)

* CX = Categorical Exclusion   DNA = Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy   EA = Environmental Assessment

Attachment 1-1

Project Name: Self-explanatory. Some commonly used abbreviations:

AMP - Allotment Management Plan

HMP - Habitat Management Plan

DNRC - Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

DEQ - Montana Department of Environmental Quality

WA - Wilderness Area

R&PP - Recreation and Public Purposes (Act)

RMP - Resource Management Plan (land use plan for a field office)

R/W or ROW - Right-of-way

FW&P - Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

APD – Application for Permit to Drill

SN – Sundry Notice

POD – Plan of Development

CBNG – Coal Bed Natural Gas

NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act

Project Type: Refers to the resource program that's responsible for the project.

Project Location: Approximate location, usually by township and range, Principal Meridian Montana. The project may include more area than given here. This entry is given to supply the approximate location only.

Contact/Phone: The name and office phone number of the BLM person most familiar with the project.

Initiation Date: Date that NEPA work begins on a proposed action.

Decision Date: This is our best estimate of when we'll have the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis completed and will be ready to make a decision on the project. Sometimes we aren't able to meet the date, but each time we send out the table, we'll show our best estimate for the decision date.

If a non-completed project isn't on this list but was on a preceding list, it means we've dropped it. We may not have had the money to pursue the required analysis or we've had to rearrange our work schedule.

Document: NEPA requires us to analyze the effects of projects we undertake. Generally, after an analysis is made, either a field manager or the state director decides what to do. In the table, the entries under the heading "Decision Type" stand for the following:

EIS - Environmental Impact Statement

EA - Environmental Assessment

CX - Categorical Exclusion

RPT - A Report (not a NEPA document)

DEC – Decision

DNA – Determination of NEPA Adequacy

PA - Preliminary Assessment

EEC - Engineer's Evaluation and Cost Analysis

In an Environmental Impact Statement, we must assume that a proposed activity either does or might have significant effects on the human environment. A "Record of Decision" announces a decision.

Environmental Assessments are analyses we do to determine if a proposed project has a significant effect on the human environment. If it does, an EIS is required. If not, we write a "Decision Record" to announce a decision based on the EA, along with a "Finding of No Significant Impact" (FONSI).

Categorical Exclusions cover activities in categories established in regulations or policies that we've found in past analyses don't have significant effects on the human environment. For certain categories of activities, we're also required to announce our decisions in "Decision Memos."